

-POP-OBARD?

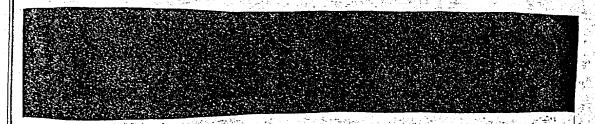
DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

SPOT COMMENTARY



23 February 1991 0600 EST

IRAQ-KUWAIT: SITUATION REPORT #598



Skirmishing Along the Border

Iraqi forces in the southeastern Kuwaiti border area were involved in heavy fighting with US Marine Corps elements early this morning, according to press reporting. The Marines—with artillery and air support—reportedly captured over 80 prisoners and destroyed several tanks.



Iraq Pully Accepts Soviet Plan, Ignores Ultimatum

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz made a short statement in Moscow at 0420 EST today, fully accepting the revised Soviet sixpoint peace plan. Aziz denied charges that Iraq had created an ecological disaster in Kuwait and called upon the UN to investigate the allegations.

Comment: Aziz made no mention of President Bush's ultimatum that Iraq begin a major withdrawal from Kuwait by noon (EST) today.



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